HEAVEN'S METAL

Volume I
Issue # 2
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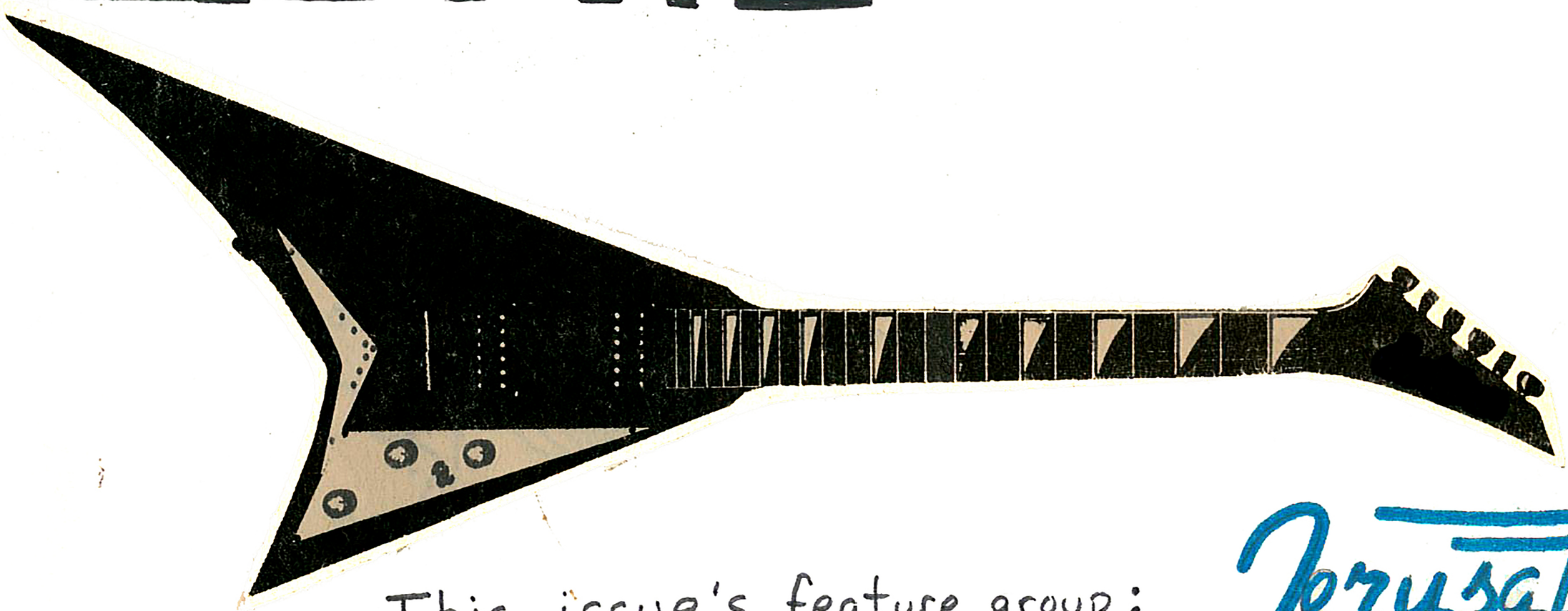

This issue's feature group: Jerusalem

Peter Carlsson & Ulf Christiansson of Jerusalem.

Foto Taken in Long Beach, Ca. 1984

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Jerusalem

"When I first got saved, I put down the guitar. I thought rock music was bad. Then The Lord told me to pick it back up and play."-Ulf Christiansson, lead singer/guitarist for Jerusalem.

Praise God for calling Ulf to play on His side! This Swedish heavy metal group has toured around the world, playing festivals in Europe (Greenbelt) and all over the States. They have released four albums, "Jerusalem", "Volume II", "Warrior"& "Can't Stop Us Now". Ulf even released a solo album, "In My Dreams", in 82. A live album of their current tour, called "In His Majesty's Service is due out anytime now.

I was fortunate enough to catch them on their summer tour. They headlined The Exodus Festival in Victoria, Tx, June 1st. They started off their explosive set w/ "Time"-a song available only on Refuge Record's "Front Row" album of various artists. During their 2nd song, my friend screamed in my ear-"This is THE best live band I've ever seen!" This was only the beginning of the most powerful concert I've ever seen! A low cloud cover started swiftly moving over our heads as a gentle breeze kicked in-just as Jerusalem went into "The Wind is Blowing." (Off 'Can't Stop Us Now') The thought crossed my mind that God was offering us His version of a Jerusalem video! What happened nest was even better. Ulf started a number called 'Love is my Weapon,' urging the audience to sing. He sat his guitar down when everyone in the audience was repeating the chorus--"Love-is-my-weapon." Ulf climbed off the stage and started hugging every person in the audience he could get his hands on. Soon the entire audience was hugging each other, while continuing the chorus, many were in tears. This had to stun anyone that has never felt the love of Jesus. It took awhile to get started after this-everyone wanted to just savor the moment. They ended their show w/ 'Constantly changing,' a bouncy hard rock anthem.

Very few bands possess the talent & chemistry to take their audience somewhere. Led-Zep certainly had it. Kansas could do it. These acts would leave their audiences on an emotional high for hours. Jerusalem takes their audience to that point and beyond. Getting to that plateau of bliss is one achievement, but what then? This is where Jerusalem leaves the others behind. They have the annointing of God on them. Ulf preaches a heavy message of "..Jesus said 'Pick up cross and follow Me.' Where is your cross?" The point he makes is clear: God didn't send His Son to die just so we could feel good.***

**********continued on page 4

Tim Gaines Robert Sweet Michael Sweet Oz Fox

Stryper's new album is out! Yee-ha! (Check out the very favorable record review this issue) The first pressing is on white "heavenly" vinyl. Order your copy soon! Enigma Records shipped over 100,000 copies the 1st day! This certainly pleases Enigma. I'm sure it pleases the boys in the band. It might even start climbing the charts. A single from the album,'Together As One,' was released 3 weeks before the album in order to stir up interest. It easily broke Enigma's record books for most 12-inch and cassette singles sold. Speculation by Rick Orienza, Enigma's representative, states that "this single may become the best-selling single of all time."

NBC Television filmed Stryper at an autograph signing/record release party for their new single. NBC will feature this piece on their news magazine program, "American Almanac." Let's all gather around the tube for that one!

Stryper is lining up for their first major trek across America. They begin headlining dates at Los Angeles in October. We can all help out w/ this tour if we all write to MTV requesting them to play Stryper's videos. MTV, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10101

STRYPER
ISAIAH 53:5

Photo Credit: Jake Zallow

ZION

Remember AC/DC's old sound when Bon Scott was their singer? Zion's production, musical talent and style is very similar to AC/DC in most of their songs. If you like basic rock chords put into good rythems, this may be the band for you. This is heavy metal buried deep beneath its early-70's roots. Many of rock's standards are put into effect: hammer-ons, bass runs, vocal harmonies, long drum intros, voice echoes, power chords carried a few extra moments, high pitched screams, orchestral pauses and other age-ole tricks that most of us never grow tired of hearing. Their custom project shows enough creativity to promise a very exciting live show.

The lyrics in 'Rock For Eternity,'are straightforward in their approach to their audience: "But Jesus can save you He's the only One who can bring you through So don't ride the highway to hell You really weren't made to."-'Jesus Loves' Almost all of their songs present the gospel in an easy-to-understand way: "That's why God sent His Son To gain our freedom w/ His blood You've got to choose what side you're on 'Cause middle ground will take you down."-'Time is Running Out'

Zion is: Rex Scott-lead vocals, drums & guitar/ Bruce Fischer-vocals & bass/ Tom Bozung-drums. For tour info, write or call Vicki Greene @ Lifelight Communications P.O. Box 431, Tea, South Dakota, 57064 (605) 743-5463

FIRST STRIKE LANDS NEW LEAD SINGER

(PTL) First Strike, the Christian heavy metal band from Sacramento, California, has said goodbye to the lead singer which sang on their "Rock Of Offense" album. The 4 remaining members have covered for the loss well during their summer tour. The band played at The Exodus Festival in Victoria, Texas (Along with Dennis Welch, Kemper Crabb, Prodigal, Rez Band & Jerusalem) on June 1st. The guitarists took over the vocal responsibility with amazing similarity to their former singer.

A&M Records has signed First Strike to a contract on Exit Records (Along with bands such as Vector, Charlie Peacock, & The 77's-all new wave/ pop groups). Word has it that the new lead singer will blow all the other singers on the Exit label away! Let's hope their manager's boast is lived up to. Release date for the new album is tentatively early to mid 1986.

Jerusalem continued

He did it so we could know Him & serve Him w/ everything we've got. When this truth is presented so boldly, it is easy to see the ugliness of our own sin. This insight doesn't usually bring depression, but repentance. Jerusalem doesn't send out a message of condemnation, but one of truth mixed w/ genuine love. God is present at a Jerusalem concert God's presence brings purity & this purity brings joy-Joy that doesn't wear off like emotions do. If Jerusalem plays anywhere near your hometown, make every effort to go see them. Yu, yeah-yea!

BARNABAS

I made a fatal mistake in Issue #1. I failed to list Barnabas in the "Must-have" section Their last 2 albums are good heavy metal albums. I like the way a writer from Cornerstone put it: "Some Christian music you can brush your teeth by. You can brush your teeth with Barnabas's new album!" Brian Belew, guitarist is the most noticable element of this band. His guitar screams for attention w/ high notes. When Brian doesn't get your attention w/ those, he depresses his strings w/ the vibrato bar for a heavy distortion that no one could ignore. Some of the songs start off as epics w/ Gary Mann adding a spacey touch on keyboards. The drums thunder at a high rate of speed courtesy of Kris Klingensmith. Nancy Jo Mann is the voice of the band. Most often she extends herself too far in her attempts to be heard over the guitar.

Barnabas was not always a metal band. Nor are they any more. There first three albums were new-wave/pop. "Approaching Light Speed" introduced their metal sound, and "Feel the Fire" carried it on. But, alas, Barnabas has called it quits. Scheduled to play at Cornerstone '85, word was that they have officially broken up. Also on the wire was hints that guitarist Brian Belew was in the process of starting another band. Let's hope so. We hate to see you leave us, Barnabas. In such a short time you became a pillar in Christian metal. God knows what He's doing. "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28)

Buy their last two albums before they are out of print!

VorteXX - Vortex Music Magazine. It covers Christian New Wave, Metal, Rock, Jazz and Avant-garde. We also cover new Christian bands and custom albums. Also: Buy, Sell or Trade hard-to-find Christian Records. Send $2.00 for Sample issue or $6.00 for subscription (6 issues) to: Vortexx 12129 Genesee St. Alden, NY 14004

LEVITICUS- 'I Shall Conquer' on Shadow

What? Another band from Sweden? You betcha. The artists in that country know how to rock. This band packs a solid punch. If we ever need to destroy a city similar to Jericho, we can let Leviticus set up stage outside of the city. It took a year for an American label to pick up this record. Enough people heard Leviticus play England's Greenbelt Festival in 1984 to get Shadow's attention.

The bass is real heavy on most of the cuts, but a couple of melodic numbers add variety to the album. One song in particular, "Doubt," is a complete surprise. The melody has a soothing Caribbean-type rythem that sounds like something The Police would do. "Doubt" is a departure from the rest of the album, which is bone-crunching metal at mid-range speed.

It sounds like England & the rest of Europe may be reacting favorably to Leviticus. Their newest album, 'The Strongest Power,' received a very enthusiastic review in Kerrang! last week. (Issue #101) Let's hope that the American head-bangers get ahold of Leviticus also. 'Strongest Power' is probably available on import thru your local secular record store. (The label is Twilight Records - TRLP 851)

'I Shall Conquer' is now available at most Christian record stores now. (It is distributed thru Lexicon) Song list for 'I Shall Conquer': I SHALL CONQUER, LET ME FIGHT, HE'S MY LIFE, DOUBT, ACTION MORE THAN WORDS, ALL IS CALM, DAY BY DAY, STRIVE FORWARDS, PSALM 23.

******** ******* COMMENTS ******* *******

"One thing about the ad, not to be a critic or anything, but there is a difference between metal & hard rock. But you know that so...I might be able to help you find other bands of interest; like Matrix (My fave metal!), L.E.D., Against The Tide, Covenant Band, & other less-known groups. Also, rumor has it that Trouble, a metal group on Metal Blade records, is a Christian band. They are very loud! Two times better than Stryper. Also, Husker Du may have some possibilities-they play speed metal.

Changing the subject, I hope this isn't another Christian bandwagon paper. I see a big need for getting the music to the people who haven't heard Jesus Christ in heavy metal. We need more 'Strypers' & groups that will take risks to break into the club scene & concert halls. Barren Cross is another band that is doing this. In Jesus-- Doug Peterson, Walnut, Illinois.

(Editor-Barren Cross is playing in California, I believe.)

COMMENTS cont'd on page 11

'In The Name Of' -The new album by Father, Son & The Holy Ghost

I was flipping thru the pages of Circus when I happened across an ad that caught my eye. It had a picture of this album cover & some words like: "It will scare the hell out of you." I thought, if this is a Christian band, they are doing a great job of getting the gospel message to a possibly unsuspecting audience. I copied down the address & wrote the band a letter. I asked them if they were dedicated to Jesus Christ. I received a typical promo- letter that in no way came close to answering my question. They signed the letter "May the Father, Son & the Holy Ghost be with you." I wondered if they meant their band, or God the Father, Jesus the Son and THE Holy Spirit. I stored away the reply letter for 10 months. I decided to send in my $7.00 after I put together the first issue. I figured it was my duty to investigate this matter.

The first thing I saw when I opened the album was a cross super-imposed over pictures of each of the four members. The next thing I did was read the lyrics. I was thoroughly disappointed. The entire lyrical content focuses on what I call "adolescent-porn." These lyrics are trashier than Kiss! The music is basic rythem-metal. Nothing outstanding nor innovative, -save for a eulogy shouted out on the title track.

I had to laugh when I heard their version of 'Wild Thing." Imagine Jimi Hendrix's version played at 16 rpm! This just goes to show you that you need to be careful when purchasing albums that you may think are "Christian" ones. This could be more frequent if and when bands like Stryper become established & accepted by the music industr y. "...men of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain."-1 Timothy 6:5

RECORD RAVES RECORD RAVES RECORD RAVES RECORD RAVES RECORD RAVES

** SAINT** - Warriors of the Son

Someone had to do it. They had to tackle the grinding sound of Judas Priest w/ the message of the gospel. From the look of the band in their fotos right on down to their lead screamer- Saint has the Judas Priest sound w/out the JP spirit. 'Plan 2' starts off the album letting us get to know the backbone of the group-bassist Richard Lynch & drummer Gene McClendon. When good ole Josh Kamer belts out the lyrics, we are commanded to show no mercy to the devil and "..Give glory to the King." If you ever need a definition for Christian heavy metal-use Saint. John Mahan handles the guitar work w/ authority. Give better production, and Saint will rise up & reach the world w/ the gospel. LEGIONS OF THE DEAD, ABYSS, WARRIORS OF THE SON, VICARS OF FATE, TIME'S WAITING round out this rock hard album.

IAN RIPPER

Austin, Tx. has given the music world many bands, but never metal. Until now. Ian Ripper and Witness are on their way to big audiences. Ian Ripper formed 2 years ago, Witness-a month ago. I-R recently went to the lucrative metal-market on the West Coast. They caught the eye of several large labels: Epic, Atlantic and Enigma.

Witness, on the other hand, already has a one-album record contract w/ Morada Records (The same label as Saint & Messiah Prophet). This contract requires Witness to tour at least 60 dates out of the year.

What do the 2 bands have in common? The lead singer, Lance! He took time out of his busy schedule to talk w/ me at Earth & Sky Studios in Austin.

Witness is a new band that hasn't played together live yet. They put together their demo tape piece by piece. Kerry Krafton, owner of Earth & Sky, wrote some good Christian metal tunes. He wanted to put them on vinyl, so he got his friends John & Fred Howard to put down the bass and drum tracks, respectively. Bryan Wooten, who can put Ed Van Halen to shame, has laid down most of the lead guitar work. Kerry put down his own rythem guitar tracks, while Lance did the vocals & parts of the lead & rythem tracks. Kerry mailed in the demo to Morada & got the contract quickly after. Hopes are that a bigger label will like this album, due out in December, and sign 'em up.

How can Lance handle 2 bands? "..with God all things are possible." (Math 19:26) "Ian Ripper is really close to a major record contract & I'd hate to give it up after working on my songs for 12 years."

*What about the name Ian Ripper?---"Ian Ripper is just a name that came out of the blue. We didn't want a name that offended anybody or cast a certain image. It kind of sounds heavy metal, doesn't it?"

*How is Ian Ripper's new material?---"The new material is message oriented. It's not blatantly Christian, but we do have a positive message in our material. It's like Bono says w/ U2-'I think actions speak louder than words.'"

Witness is going to be a lot more straightforward band. People come up to me after I-R shows & ask me about our lyrics & I tell 'em how I feel. We're not condemning people thru our message & we're not turning anybody off-cause our major audiences are in bars & if we play a club & throw Bibles out, the management will kick us out of the club."

*When I talked to you earlier, you mentioned a song that the management of The Back Room told you not to play.---"Yeah, we have a song called 'Learn To Kill,' that is an anti-war song. It says Jesus in it. It condemns killing, violence, war in general and unjust wars. The management told us that if we play that song, we couldn't play there anymore. We still played it that night & the next time we played there also."

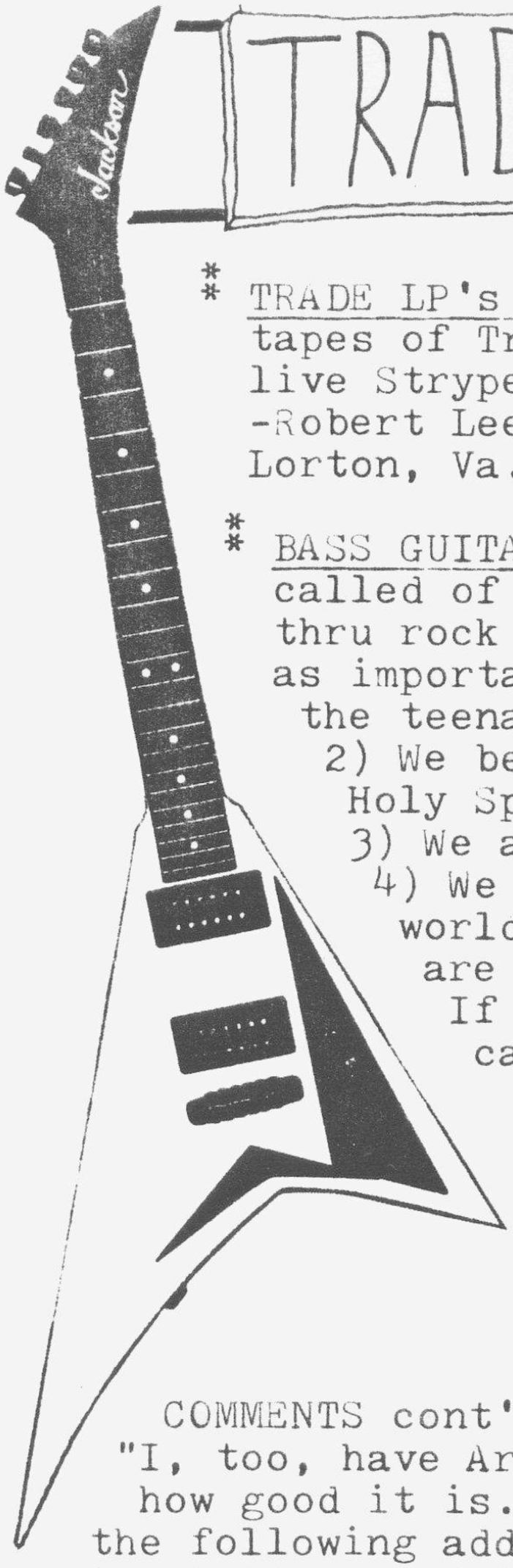
*Is the style of your new stuff more melodic?---"Yeah, I'd say so. We had a keyboard player for awhile, that tended to make our stuff more mellow. We're not a metal band. At one point we were really metalled-out. Now we're more like contemporary hard rock w/a message".
*Is there any particular band that you'd care to musically compare yourself to?--"Billy Squier."
*What is your purpose as a musician?---"To play the songs that I write, which pretty much express my beliefs. It's neat if you believe in something, if you have certain goals, certain feelings, if you can express them to many people at one time. I guess the ultimate thing is to have your songs on plastic & have 'em out there where people can buy 'em & listen to 'em & read the lyric sheet & go 'Wow! This guy has some positive ideas. He's apparantly a Christian.' (If they know anything about Christianity) The Witness material-there's no doubt about it-it's pretty blatant Christian music."
*How does Ian Ripper fit that purpose?---Ian Ripper has always been an outlet for my personal songs & my bass player & drummer have been w/ me from the start. In the beginning we were just a rock n roll band. We couldn't help having all this seep into the lyrics, because that's how I feel. I write very few normal American love songs, never anything filthy. I'd say alot of the new stuff is pretty Christian oriented stuff. I've been a Christian for some time & Ian Ripper was a way for me to develop my thing. We're doing 34 original songs now."

"We had an exciting event that changed our lives, pretty quickly. We had a demon at our house. It affected the whole band. Satan was determined to kill off my band when I started doing more Christian material, I guess. My bass player had a muscle spasm around his heart that caused us to miss a gig. It tried to scare us really bad. Finally, I got real sick of it & rebuked it in the name of Jesus Christ & it left."

"It's easy in America for people to believe Satan is a cartoon character, that he's a figment of your imagination or a physical phenomena-that everything can be explained. It's not that way. The majority of the American public doesn't realize that there is spiritual warfare because they're in the dark. Why does Satan have to mess w/ somebody doing his will? If you're on his side, he's not going to make himself that known to you-he doesn't need to."
*What are your goals as a group?---"Our idealogy is to be a band a lot like U2, only in the hard rock vein. Witness, as a band, is going to be a lot more like Stryper. I'm sure that, if both bands get signed by big labels, the press will figure out that I am the same guy."

Kerry, writer for Witness, interjected here to say-"There's quite a difference in the area of music that U2 is in & the type of music Stryper is in. On the other side of U2's style are groups w/ love songs and not too much blatant evil. Whereas, in the area of Stryper groups like Motley Crue, Iron Maiden, etc. are more blatantly dark."

IAN RIPPER Interview Continued...
"The metal world is more polarized than, say, the pop world. If you are going to go after an audience that listens to Def Leppard, Crue, WASP, etc., you have to approach it differently. You need to be more explicit in your stance, the same way they're explicit in theirs."
*Does the entire band feel this way?---"Witness? Yes. Ian Ripper? We have prayer meetings & pray before we go on stage. It really took a lot of Hollywood shock to get these guys really involved. God let it happen. Poltergeist at our house. Live at Ian Ripper's rehearsal room! So, Witness-definitely; Ian Ripper-yes."
*What is the greatest burden on your heart?---"Oh man, the kids that are losing it. We see 'em in the clubs we play in. I feel that music is one of the most happening outlets for witnessing to people. An 18 year old drug burnout girl is going to come a whole lot closer to listening to me than she is to some evangelist from a local church. There's a need for this & there's people here to do it."
*Do you get a lot of feedback from the audience that shows they understand your message?---"Not a lot. 3 or so at every show. Our songs aren't designed to right away turn off thousands of people or right away save thousands of people. Whereas Witness is going to be a massive thing, although I don't think we're going to play clubs."
Here's a few lyrics from Ian Ripper: 'HEAR HIM KNOCK'-"...So you want the world, that's what you got. But w/out the Lord you don't have a lot. Turn it over make a brand new start. Jesus is waiting to enter your heart." Lance says that "it's something people can catch on to. If you can get a catchy melody in one of your songs, or commercial, people go around & hum it. Pretty soon they figure out what it's about. Witness is going to record this one." I heard Ian Ripper play this song, and boy is it hot! One of the best I've heard them play. 'JUST AS SOON BE BLIND'-The chorus reads-"Two steps forward, one more behind. Visions of true love keep running thru my mind. Don't give me money, gold, or things that shine. If I can't see the trees for the forest, I'd just as soon be blind... The Father is crying for the souls of the lost. All my redemptions were paid on the cross. There's time we keep wasting. I'm just a coin for the toss. The piper's still waiting, but he,s not the boss." "This one is basically for backslidden people," Lance tells us. I say it's hot! Lance let me hear parts of the Witness demo. It was absolutely killer! The guitar work by both Lance and Bryan are dazzling. Bryan will definitely turn a few ears in the direction of Witness.
I asked Lance how you, the reader of Heaven's Metal, can pray for him. He hopes you do! He said, "Pray for me that: 1) I can be a good witness. 2) That I don't succomb to the powers of Satan while we're in the world doing this stuff. 3) That more people hear the message." Amen!



TRADING POST

Want to trade, buy or sell something? Send the info. (Band info takes top priority if there is a space problem. But NASA will take care of that anyway.)

** TRADE LP's & TAPES : I have live tapes of Trouble! I'm looking for live Stryper, Rez Band, Saint, etc. -Robert Leedrick 9558 Hagel Circle Lorton, Va. 22079

** BASS GUITARISTS: If you are 18-24, and feel you are called of God to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ thru rock and roll-Call us. The group's name is not as important as its goals. 1) We intend to reach the teenage population of today with the Word of God. 2) We believe it can be accomplished thru us by the Holy Spirit's working in our lives and music. 3) We are not a Christian entertainment band. 4) We play hard rock and roll music in the secular world for non-Christian audiences & our records are aired on secular radio. If you are called to this type of ministry, call 259-2339 (Area code 512)

** HEAVY METAL Single!!!!!!! Paul Q-Pek's HEAVY METAL old band, Frontrunner Definitely a must for every metal-head! "It's a killer song! His voice is a great voice for metal."-G. Taylor, ex-guitarist for Armageddon. SEND $1.50 (includes postage) to Heaven's Metal

COMMENTS cont'd----------

"I, too, have Arkangel's Warrior Lp and agree w/ you as to how good it is. It is available still in this country at the following address to those who may be interested: Kingsway Music, Luttbadge Drive, Eastbowne, East Sussex, BN23 6NT At present, other albums I would recommend are: Solid Air-Take A Little Interest (RIO Records) 213 Hatfield Road, St. Albans, Herts, England. :100% Proof-The Power and The Glory (S.B. Records) 3-7 Mealhouse Brow, off Little Underbank Stockport, SK11Jp. :Servant-Caught in the Act of Loving Him, :Barrett Band-Playing In The City, :Bruce Cockburn-Stealing Fire, :Rez Band-Colours. --Paul Leader, Suffolk, England.

"I just received a copy of Heaven's Metal, and I think it's great. Keep up the good work! Keep rockin' in the Lord's name. --Robert Leedrick, Lorton, Virginia.

Old Mr. Metaxas quietly eases away from his makeshift table. Having finished his breakfast, he slowly limps down the hall to his door. He fetches his cane & lets his cat out as he heads out the door. He is soon overwhelmed by the crowd of people rushing past him on the sidewalk. He travels slow & determined, unaffected by the jostling about him. When he reaches the busy New York street corner, he slowly takes off his jacket, almost as if paying homage to the sun. He pulls out a soapbox from under the bushes. He has used this particular box for years- back when they were really used to carry soap. He tries stepping up on the box unsuccessfully several times. After falling down, a mailman passing by stops & helps him up on the box. After thanking the mailman for his kindness, he immediately starts prophesying to the masses of people passing by.

He prophesies a message he cannot run away from. He receives visions that are so clear and yet so threatening that he is compelled to venture out of his apartment confines in order to warn the people. He tried to stay inside when the visions began to come to him. He would've, but they kept on coming. He couldn't stop them or control when he would have one. He didn't want to waste his God-given talent, so he forced himself to go out every morning 'til noon. After 3 years of this, he no longer has to force himself out of bed. He is now driven by his visions, compelled to share them.

His visions aren't well received by the monster-of-a-city he lives in. The locals know him as "Madman Metaxas." Young children walk by, see him & ask their parents what he is doing. The parents always react the same. They politely tell their child, "He is a poor old man who is sick in the head." Others tease him by calling him "a flipped-out fool, lunatic or a madman." He is

...never visibly bothered by these comments. He continues to prophesy, because he has seen the look of understanding in the eyes of a few who have listened. For these few he continues his struggle. He is like a fish swimming against the tide, but he has something to swim for.

This modern-day fairy tale is one of the many concepts the band Prophet incorporates into their music. Prophet is a new band (If you can call 5 years old, new) that has just released their self-titled debut album on Total Experience Records. Hailing from New Jersey, Prophet identifies their goal as: "..to write what is inside us." What is inside them? Only God knows for sure, but what they've expressed is a good indication of what's there. The song 'Slow Down' is a plea to stop destroying yourself w/ drugs. This was written after having seen many friends go down the tubes on coke. The song 'It's Real' deals w/ the loneliness felt after suffering thru too many relationships where there was no commitment. The lyrics try to tackle the person whose heart is so hard that he or she feels that one-night stands offer more than a real solid commitment.--"Will you know how to face the truth? When the song that you sing doesn't mean anything w/out someone to sing it to. Take the time, realize. It's real..." 'Power Play' asks us "..Who will you turn to in the end?" This powerful song warns us that "If you feed the flame, You're the one to blame. (If you) Play w/ power, you'll get burned." 'Everything You Are' is a worship song. Whether it is addressed to God or to a girl/boy; the question is left up to us.

The song 'Away From You' is written to Fionna. I know you wanted to know that. When asked if there was a common theme or an over-riding idea that crept into every song, bassist Scott Metaxas replied, "No, we try not to write the same song twice. We use a lot of concepts." All the concepts on their debut album are positive. No sex and violence here. The band spokesperson, Scott Metaxas, says, "So many bands try to shock their audience at face value. This really gets boring after awhile." It is good to see a band like this swim against the tide of current trends & images in heavy metal.

This band has dished out a healthy serving of consistent truth on their debut album. Musically, they shine brighter than most of their peers. They jam w/ musical skills in all the right places: Keyboards-Joe Zujkowski, Drums-Ted Poley, Bass-Scott M., Guitars-Ken Dubman, Vocals-Dean Fosano-(Shared w/ Scott & Ted) They have been busy recording material for their 2nd album, while waiting for promoters to finalize a major US tour. Scott tells us that their live show is even hotter than their album!

"And He (Holy Spirit), when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin, and righteousness, and judgement."-John 16:8 Concerning Prophet's goal to write what's inside them, their lyrics seem to indicate that they have something inside them that they are trying to bring peace to. I believe that the

cont'd on pg.15

'SOLDIERS UNDER COMMAND' -Stryper
Awesome! This is it!-The premiere heavy metal album of 1985! The title track kicks off the album w/ the guitars in full force. "We're not ashamed to stand up for what's right. We win w/out sin, it's not by our might." 'Makes Me Wanna Sing keeps the energy and distortion levels high. The chorus is an out-and-out praise chorus-"Jesus, King, King of Kings." 'Together Forever' starts off w/ a vocal chorus proclaiming our eternal destiny together. "Let's rock the world w/ a new beat." The next song is my personal favorite. It starts off mellow and filled w/ emotion. As the pain of the loss of her first love goes on, the more intense Michael's voice becomes. The drums finally kick in w/ the guitars to finish the song w/ a sense of the renewal of the relationship. 'The Rock That Makes Me Roll' ends side one w/ a powerful, inspiring call to "Stand up and fight!" 'Reach Out,' '(Waiting For) A Love That's Real' and 'Together As One' are all more accessible to the general rock n roll crowd. Not by message, but by the music. These 3 songs have great catchy hooks that should get airplay-and lots of it! 'Surrender' is one of the bone-crunchers, along w/ the title cut, that show Stryper's muscle. One of the highlights to their live show-"Battle Hymn of the Republic' ends the album w/ a classic ballad.

100% PROOF - 'The Power And The Glory' -
One hundred percent proof. Their music is 100% proof of what God has done in their lives. This band can duke it out w/ the biggest & the baddest of them. They never really slow down to do ballads or melodic songs. No, they go heavy and hard all the way. The guitarist rips it up throughout the album. Their message is blatant. JESUS LOVES ME, I'M GOING TO WIN, LOST SOUL, and the title cut are great indications of their messages. The rythems are fast and driving. The vocals, shared by S. Wright & C. Wilson are low in range, but gutsy and powerful. P. Wright probably breaks a lot of drum heads. He pounds it out on every song! S. Harrison urges the band on w/ his bass. P. Savage handles the keyboards every once in awhile. Challenge one of your friends to a "jam-box blowout" w/ a 100% Proof tape.

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PROPHET cont'd== ...the Holy Spirit's conviction is on the songwriters of this band as they search for the truth. Each song of theirs seems to express a desire to feed this hunger inside of them for truth. Their lyrics seem to point out that they are on their way to finding the ultimate truth--Jesus Christ. I believe this band is in much the same postion Kansas was in six years ago. We may have the privilege to again watch an artist search for truth and tell us about it as he or she goes along. Let's join together in our prayers that this Prophet may find the peace that God's truth brings to a searching heart.

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--PRAYER PROJECT--

Mylon LeFevre, an ex-rock star-present day rock and roll minister, has been sharing the good news of Jesus Christ w/ Ozzy Osbourne for the past couple of months. Only Ozzy & the Lord know if John Osbourne-(Ozzy's real name)-has accepted Jesus yet. Let's all storm the gates of heaven w/ prayer that Ozzy would come to know Jesus personally. Poor Ozzy has seen so much garbage take place first hand. He needs God's healing touch in his life. I'm sure he will soon love Jesus w/ all his heart. "He who is forgiven much, loves much."

Remember not to be selfish in your prayers. Don't ask God "to save Ozzy, so he can play Christian rock and then I can listen to him." What's best for Ozzy might be to give up music. Who knows? God does, let Him take of it His way. For every prayer we lift up for Ozzy, lets lift up 3 for our unsaved friends around us.

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WANT TO SUBSCRIBE? Send $3.00 for a one-year subscription. That's 6 issues. Send check, money order, band info, letters to: Doug Van Pelt 502 Texas Ave. Austin, Tx 78705

The editor and Greg Taylor (Armageddon) looking for all The mistakes in issue #1. (Armageddon never got off the ground)

Would you pray for this newsletter? The Lord is opening doors - especially in the area of Evangelism. My ad in Kerrang #100 has drawn some attention. A free-lance writer has asked me to help him w/ a feature article on Christian metal - to appear in Kerrang! Expansion of this newsletter looks plausible & impending. PTL!

Doug VanPelt

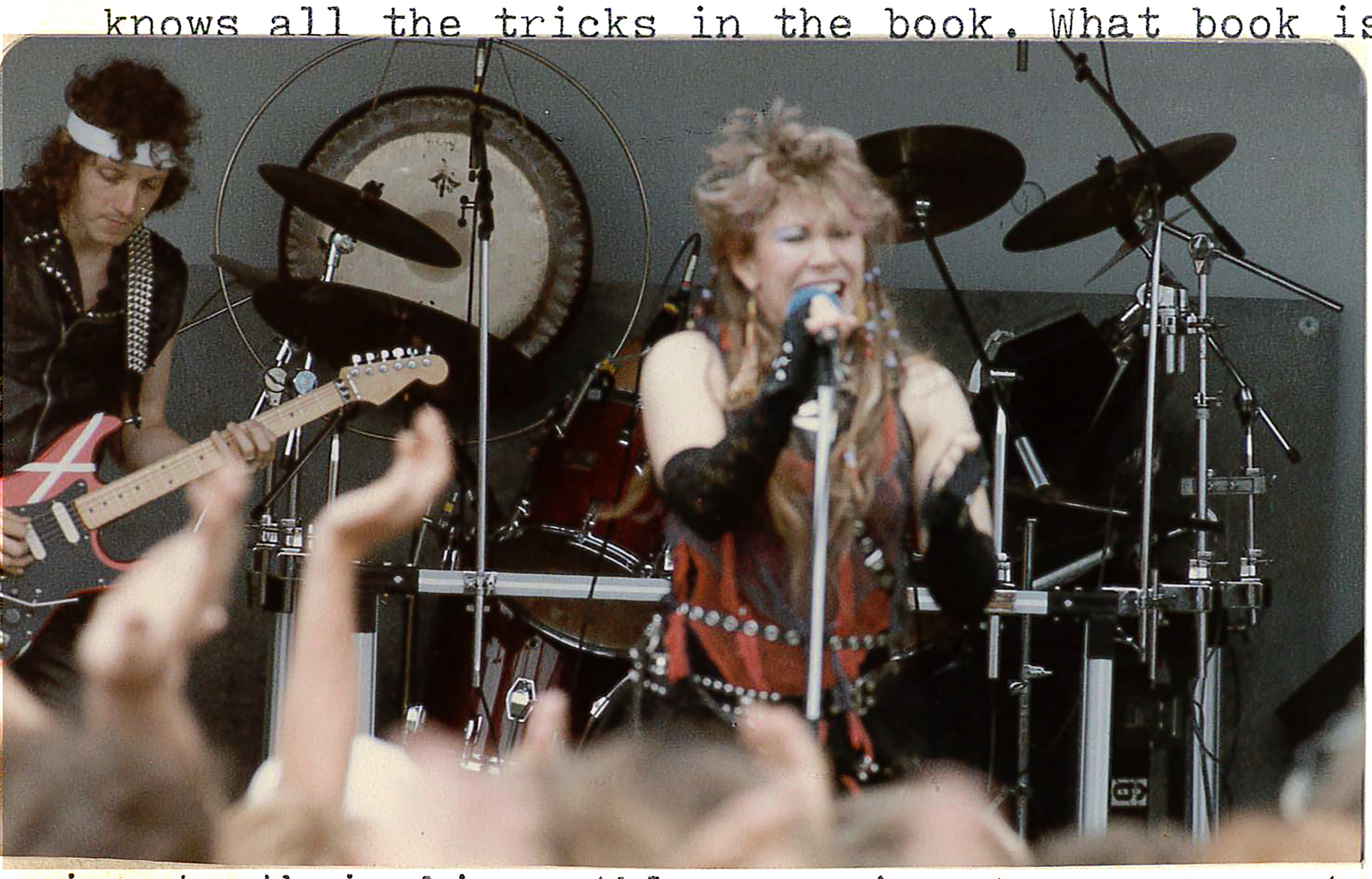
ARE YOU STARVING?

I'm a beggar. I've been starving all my life. Now I know where to get food. The hunger is a hunger for God that we all have. I have found God thru His Son, Jesus Christ. "...No one comes to the Father except thru Me."-Jesus (John 14:6) Now you know where to get food. This newsletter you hold in your hand has some radical pictures and informative articles, but all it really is is a platform for God to walk on. As you read this, God is telling you the truth of what I say. The next step is yours. Will you eat the bread offered to you? Repent of your sins and "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved-you and your household." Acts 16:31

REZ BAND VIDEO GETS AIRPLAY ON MTV!!!!!!! 'Crimes,' a song off their 'Hostage' album was filmed in Chicago last Winter. It was so cold that some of the cameras froze up. The cast included members of Rez Band's own Jesus People USA. This is a street ministry in downtown Chicago.

Rez was the 1st Christian band that ventured into metal. Their 1st 2 albums 'Awaiting Your Reply' and 'Rainbow's End' fit right into the mid-70's metal genre. Their subsequent albums: MOMMY DOES'T LOVE DADDY ANYMORE, COLOURS, DMZ, LIVE BOOTLEG & HOSTAGE; have changed w/ the times. Rez has added synthesizers and a new wave sound to some of their songs, but they've always kept their punishing metal sound on all of their records. (Nobody wants to lose their metal audience!)

Their new album, tentatively titled-BETWEEN HEAVEN & HELL is due out in late '85. I am told that they are going to stick to their metal sound on this one. This development, if it is true, will be a boost to Christian metal. Stu Heiss, lead guitarist, knows all the tricks in the book. What book is this? No one knows, but Stu sneaks quick lead breaks into every song he plays. He does a 5 minute solo live, followed by throwing his guitar down while flashpots go off simultaneously. Rez= John Herrin-drums, Jim Denton-bass & synth, Glenn Kaiser- guitar, Wendy Kaiser-vocals, Stu-guitars. If you want to write Rez for t-shirts, lp's or a free subscription to their bi-monthly magazine-Cornerstone (Great mag!) write to: Cornerstone 4707 N. Malden Chicago, Illinois 60640.



Stu & Wendy of Rez @ Fishnet '85